

EVALUATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL AND REMEDIAL SOFTWARE FOR SOL INSTRUCTION

The purpose of the review is to provide school divisions participating in the Standards of Learning Web-based Technology Initiative with evaluations and correlation of technology-based materials for instruction and remediation. The software review committee of a school division has reviewed and submitted each review.

- Only reviews of software/Web sites that are found to be effective for instruction and/ or remediation are submitted by a school division.

School Division: Petersburg - 120

Division Software Committee Contact: Dr. Charles A. Wootten

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PRODUCT INFORMATION

- Title: Boxer Learning
- Version #: Boxer Intermediate Algebra
- Copyright Date: 1998
- Title of Series: Boxer Math, Internet Version: BOXERmath.com
- Title of Component [module] if applicable:
- Publisher/producer: Boxer Learning, Inc.; Distributor: Computer Curriculum Corporation
- System Requirements: Windows 95/98 recommended: 486 processor or better; 8MB RAM; 256-color SVGA graphics or better; CD-ROM Drive

Standards of Learning Correlations and degree of Correlation with the Product

MATHEMATICS:

☒ Mathematics SOL #8.1-8.4 (Moderate), SOL #8.12-8.13 (Moderate), SOL #8.14-8.18 (Exceptional)

X Algebra I SOL #1-A.12 (Exceptional), SOL #14; A. 16A (Moderate), SOL#A.15; A. 17; A.18 (Exceptional)

UTILIZATION AND TEACHER PREPARATION

Classroom applications of the software/Web site in your division, including grade/ability level, student grouping, and special needs:

BOXER Intermediate Algebra is used in conjunction with BOXERmath.com to reinforce and remediate skills in the Algebra I and Algebra I, Part I programs. The multi-user software pack (5) was purchased due to the inability to access the internet on the computers in the lab. The Internet subscription was only accessible in the school computer lab by appointment only. The Boxer Intermediate Algebra configuration includes a management system where the teacher records the student progress at each individual computer. This is installed on the 14 computers in the math lab, but only five may be used at a time because it is CD dependent. Specific skills are reinforced (guided and independent practice is provided) following direct instruction. Skills are selected from the various lesson menus. Students are also given individual assignments for remediation as warranted by assessment and evaluation of skill acquisition. Students may also access this site from home, and parents are able to assist.

Type and degree of teacher training required to support effective utilization of the software/Web site.

Both the software and the Internet subscription may be managed effectively with careful study of the manuals and instruction provided. There is also online support and telephone help, if necessary.

We were in-serviced on this program by a teacher at our high school, who we believe had received training from the company consultant. We would like to continue its use, with more training from the consultants.

Vendor teacher training available for this product - Not sure

If "YES", is cost: included in purchase price;

is training: on-site with company presenter ;

quality of training: exceeded expectations

DIVISION'S ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Due to the technical questionability of our online capabilities, it is difficult to plan effectively. Our servers have been down over 25% of the school year. The math lab has NEVER been completely wired for Internet access, although multiple requests have been made. Therefore, the purchase of the Internet contract has been less than efficient.

We have, however, made maximum use of the multi-user software pack. This does not have the scope and capabilities of the online version, but the reinforcement and remediation of skills have been extremely helpful.

TECHNICAL ASPECTS and TEACHER SUPPORT MATERIALS

Indicate if the software/Web site has been reviewed in either of the following sources:

- In *EvaluTech* (<http://www.evalutech.sreb.org/>) - Yes or No: Yes
- if yes - date reviewed: April 2001
- In *Educational Software Preview Guide* (ISTE) (<http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Technology/imt.html>) - Yes or No: Yes

If requires use of Web browser, list browser requirements, including lowest usable version #

If requires the use of "plug-ins", list required plug-ins:

List the major strengths of this program/Web site: